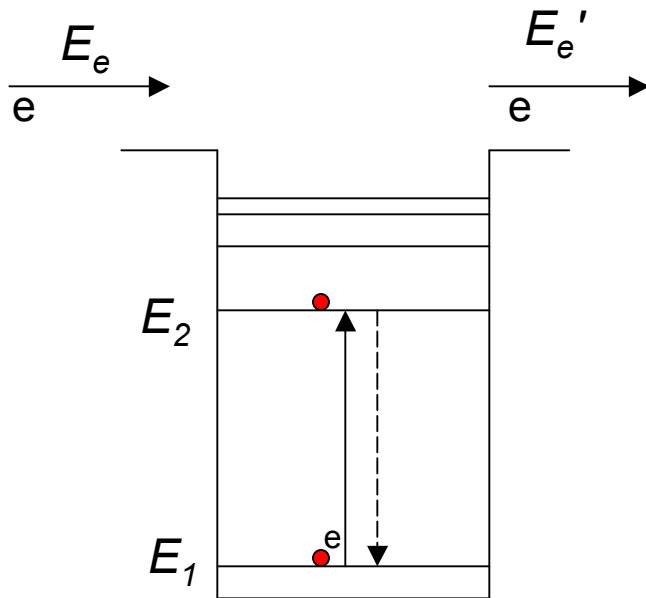


# Franck-Hertz Experiment

- Franck and Hertz wanted to show that energy transitions in an atom were quantized.
- They believed that electron's in a beam should transfer their energy to a gas in quantized steps.



## Conservation of Energy

$$E_e + E_1 = E_e' + E_2 \quad \rightarrow \quad E_e - E_e' = (E_2 - E_1) = \Delta E_{21}$$

## Hydrogen - like Atoms

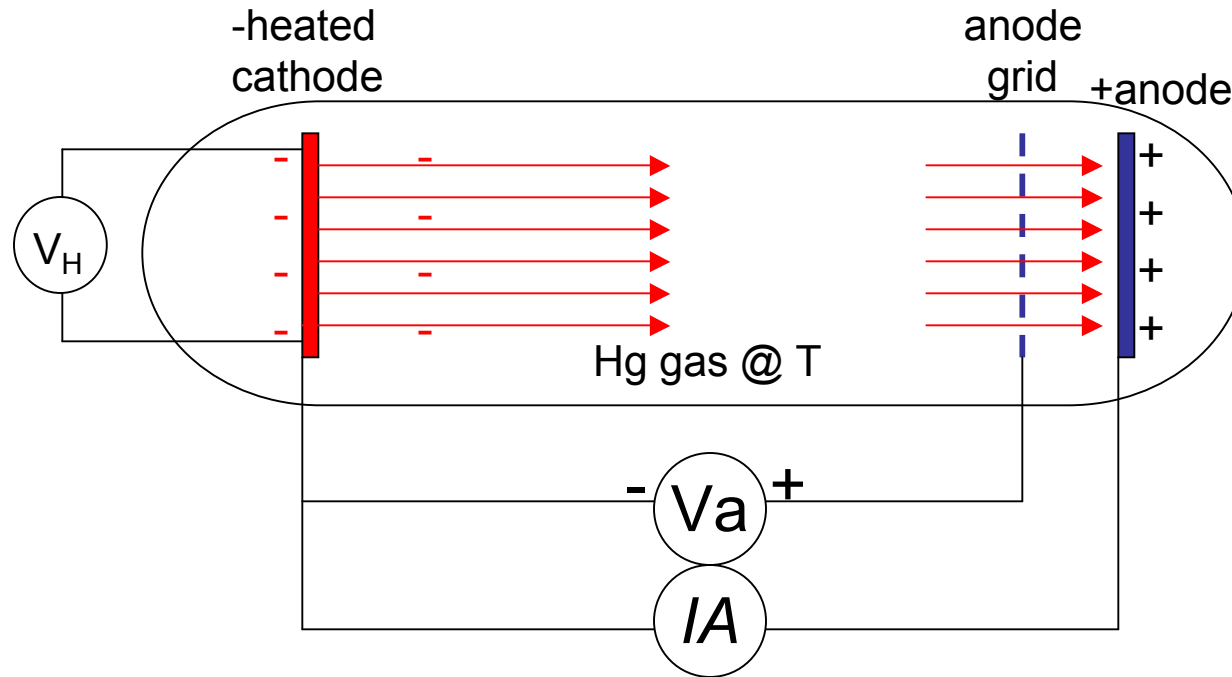
$$E_n = -13.6 \frac{Z^2}{n^2} eV \quad E_{n=1}^{Hg} = -10.38 eV$$

**Hg<sub>80</sub><sup>201</sup> Atom** *Ground State* (Xe)<sup>54</sup> 4f<sup>14</sup> 5d<sup>10</sup> 6s<sup>2</sup>

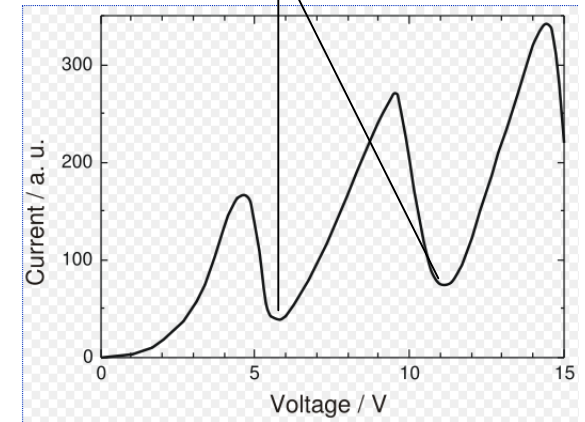
**Na<sub>11</sub><sup>23</sup> Atom** *Ground State* 1s<sup>2</sup> 2s<sup>2</sup> 2p<sup>6</sup> 3s<sup>1</sup>

- Monatomic Hg, Ne, Ar are used so not to excite molecular transitions eg. N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, etc.

# Franck-Hertz Tube



resonant absorption dips I,II



- $V_H$  supplies current to the heated cathode creating electrons by thermionic emission.
- Electrons are accelerated to the anode by adjusting  $V_a = 0 = 80V$  eg.
- Electrons reaching the anode grid are collected and establish an anode grid current  $I_A$ .
- Some electrons collide with Hg atoms and transfer energy  $e + Hg \rightarrow e' + Hg^*$  (\*excited).  

$$E_e + E_{Hg} = E_{e'} + E_{Hg^*} \quad E_e = \Delta(E_{Hg^*} - E_{Hg})$$
- $e'$  loses energy and stops accelerating, a drop in  $I_A$  occurs creating an **absorption dip**.
- $e'$  re-accelerates and can collide with another Hg atoms, again  $e + Hg \rightarrow e' + Hg^*$  and a second absorption dip occurs.
- $\Delta(E_{Hg^*} - E_{Hg})$  represents a quantized energy transition in Hg!

$^{80}\text{Hg}$  **Ground State** (Xe)  $4f^{14} 5d^{10} 6s^2 6p^2$

$$L = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad S = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1, 0$$

$$J = L + S = 0 + 1 = 1 \quad {}^{2S+1}L_J = {}^3S_1 \quad \text{not allowed}$$

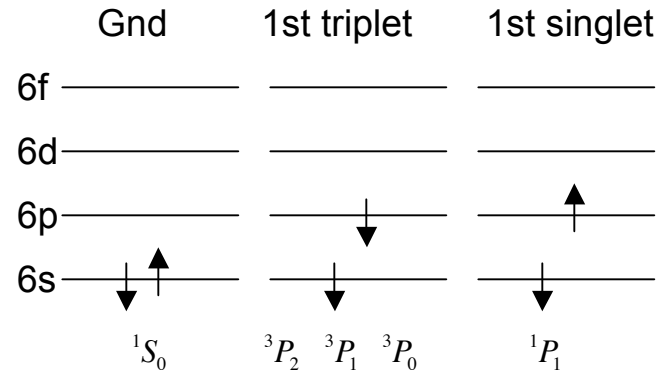
$$J = L + S = 0 + 0 = 0 \quad {}^{2S+1}L_J = {}^1S_0 \quad \text{ground state}$$

**1st Excited State** (Xe)  $4f^{14} 5d^{10} 6s^1 6p^1$

$$L = 0 + 1 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad S = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1, 0$$

$$J = L + S = 1 + 1 = 2, 1, 0 \quad {}^{2S+1}L_J = {}^3P_2, {}^3P_1, {}^3P_0$$

$$J = L + S = 1 + 0 = 1 \quad {}^{2S+1}L_J = {}^1P_1$$



**Electric Dipole Transitions**

$$\Delta L = 1 \quad \Delta m_L = 0, \pm 1$$

$$\Delta J = 0, \pm 1$$

$$J = 0 \leftrightarrow J = 0 \quad \text{not allowed}$$

